

Thailand crash

The Maha Sarakham, Thailand, crash of 55-4513 was a case of mis-identification. It was the crew's first mission in Thailand, and they had to fly over an cloud deck most of the way. When they got to where they thought the intended field was, they saw what looked like an airfield through a hole in the clouds and made a steep approach down through the hole. The landing was in the "very hard" category, and the airplane fuselage broke just forward of the wing box. Turns out they "landed" in the infield of the town's race track. To the crews surprise, they were greeted by the entire population of the town who had been in the grandstand watching the horse races at the time of their arrival. They were invited to the stands, and the races continued.